



ECEDA

Elko County Economic Diversification Authority
Representing Northeastern Nevada

723 Railroad Street • Elko, Nevada 89801 • 775.738.2100

eceda@frontiernet.net • www.eceda.com

August 15, 2011

Chairman Julius Genachowski
Commissioner Michael J. Copps
Commissioner Robert M. McDowell
Commissioner Meredith Attwell Baker
Commissioner Mignon Clyburn

Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street SW
Washington, DC 20554

Re: WT Docket 11-65

Dear Chairman Genachowski and Commissioners:

While the rest of the country eagerly awaits good news and growth in the economy, nowhere would that news be more welcome than Nevada. With consistently one of the highest rates of unemployment, Nevadans statewide continue to look for avenues of economic growth.

One bright spot in Nevada and elsewhere is the growth and expansion of wireless connectivity. While we've ridden a rollercoaster of economic ups and downs – compounded most recently as Congress debates the nation's debt – the one constant has been the popularity and subsequent growth of wireless. That success is evident today – Nevadans rely on wireless to stay in touch with family and friends, but also to do work. This is especially true in rural areas of the state like Elko where local companies and operations such as mining rely on staying connected to economic hubs across the globe.

As technology evolves and choices continue to proliferate, it's critical that more and more of residents in Elko County have access to wireless broadband. Wireless has empowered residents in and around Elko to be connected despite their jobs spreading them across expansive areas. This is why the Elko County Economic Diversification Authority encourages you to support the AT&T/T-Mobile merger.

ECEDA's mission is to encourage and coordinate diversified development and economic growth in Elko County, Nevada. ECEDA is a professional non-profit economic development authority devoted to assisting businesses and industry in their quest for the ideal location to establish or expand operations.

Through the merger, AT&T is committed to bring 4G LTE to more than 125,000 more Nevadans including residents in Elko. Denying that many Nevadans the ability to connect would do little to entice economic growth and investment.

AT&T's commitment to bringing 4G LTE to more areas of the state is worthy of support.

I appreciate your consideration.

Sincerely,

Pam Borda
Executive Director